

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

Statement of John WILSON
Age of Witness (if over 21 enter "over 21") Over 21
Occupation of Witness Detective Sergeant
Address Special Branch, New Scotland Yard, S.W.1

On Sunday, 12th January, 1969, I was on duty whilst a march and demonstration organised by the Zimbabwe Solidarity Action Committee and Black People's Alliance took place. I walked with the demonstrators from Speakers' Corner, Hyde Park to Downing Street and later to the vicinity of Rhodesia House, Strand, W.C.2. Just after 5 p.m., several hundred of the demonstrators, almost all of them European, turned away from Rhodesia House towards Duncannon Street, W.C.2, chanting "Let's attack South Africa House". I went with them and saw them smashing the ground floor windows of South Africa House and attempting to enter the building by breaking open a side door in Duncannon Street. At about 5.20 p.m. these demonstrators were facing a cordon of uniform police officers. They were chanting slogans, screaming abuse and throwing missiles at the officers. I saw a man aged about 27, height 5'9", well built, with a large mop of unruly curly brown hair, with sideboards, holding a wooden pole attached to one end of which was a piece of light coloured cloth. When I saw him he was 4 to 5 yards away from me. The cloth was set on fire and he then hurled the pole with the flaming cloth attached towards the building of South Africa House. It passed over the heads of the police officers and

Signed

John Wilson

Signature witnessed by

Clive Jones

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Continuation of statement of John WILSON

struck the side of the building. At about 5.30 p.m. on the Strand side of South Africa House I saw this man arrested by other officers. I later went to Cannon Row Police Station and saw this same man, whom I now know as "Edward Michael DAVOREN".

This statement, consisting of 2 pages each signed by me, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated the 14th day of January, 1969

(Signed)

Signature witnessed by

being unable to read the above statement I,

of

read it to him before he signed it).

Dated the day of , 19 .

(Signed).....

* Delete if inapplicable.